AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a label switch path (LSP) of a second MPLS communication network, said first ATM communication network connected to a third ATM communication network through said LSP of said second MPLS communication network, said first ATM communication network having a first ATM OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said first ATM communication network, said second MPLS communication network having a second MPLS OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said second MPLS communication network, said method comprising:

   detecting said fault related to said LSP of said second MPLS communication network by monitoring connectivity verification (CV), forward defect indicator (FDI), and backward defect indicator (BDI) packets of said second MPLS OAM protocol;

   generating a first OAM alarm indication signal (AIS) cell of said first ATM OAM protocol indicating detection of said fault;

   transmitting said first OAM AIS cell to said first ATM communication network to indicate said fault to said first ATM communication network thereby indicating a loss of communications with said third ATM communication network through said LSP.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a LSP of a second MPLS communication network as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first ATM communication network is connected with said ~~MPLS~~ second <u>MPLS</u> communication network at a network element.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a LSP of a second MPLS communication network as claimed in claim 2, wherein said detecting said fault occurs at said network element.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a LSP of a second MPLS communication network as claimed in claim 4, wherein said network element is adapted to receive said CV packets from said second MPLS communication network.

6. (Previously Presented) A method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a LSP of a second MPLS communication network as claimed in claim 5, wherein said fault related to said second MPLS communication network is detected at said network element by recognition of expiry of a time interval in which a number of said CV packets have not been received.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of notifying a first ATM communication network of a fault related to a LSP of a second MPLS communication network as claimed in claim 6, wherein said number of said CV packets is at least three.

8-30. (Cancelled)